

Weekly Views

February 22, 2013

Members of Westville Correctional Facility's (WCC) K-9 team were recognized for their collaborative efforts with the Lake County Community Corrections (LCCC) staff to conduct shakedowns at the community's facility. Three K-9 handlers and their dogs used their expertise to locate unauthorized material that had gathered in the offender's housing areas. A letter of appreciation to WCC Superintendent Mark Levenhagen noted the shakedown team's professionalism and showed appreciation for helping to improve safety at LCCC and for promoting a positive working relationship with Westville.

Wabash Valley Correctional Facility minimum-security crews donned hazmat suits to clean up five cabins at Shakamak State Park in Greene County. The crews received special training and safety gear to clear the cabins of bat guano. Over three pounds of the toxic but highly effective fertilizer was harvested from the cabins and will be tilled into the soil throughout the park as the spring growing season begins. Wabash Valley crews also made repairs to the cabins to prevent future bat visits. (See photo right)

Rockville Correctional Facility (RCF) PLUS program offenders have completed the first supply of crocheted hats to be delivered to the Peyton Manning's Children's Hospital in Indianapolis. The hand-made caps are of all colors and sizes for the children undergoing treatment. The RCF PLUS program intends that this community service project remain on-going.



The Putnamville Correctional Facility hosted a PLUS graduation ceremony for 174 offenders. Keynote speaker and facility volunteer Robert Walsman addressed the graduates along with Religious Services Director David Liebel and PLUS graduates Ernest Collier and Stephen Hatton. The ceremony was organized by PLUS coordinators Karumathil Kumaran and Lynn Kortum. Refreshments were prepared and served by Culinary Arts students.

The Indiana State Prison held a General Assembly to honor staff with years of service and quarterly awards. Years of Service Awards were presented to Charles Wright, John Ratkay, Marion Thatcher and Meczyslaw Piskor for 20 years of service, Robb French, Howard Wilson, and Robert Kent Sr. for 25 years of service, and Carol Fisch and Bradley Hutchison for 30 years of service. Extra Mile awards were given to Susan Jones, Corizon, Phyllis Newkirk, Lieutenant James Meehan and Officer Carl Keller. Quarterly Awards were presented to Cynthia Lasco, Lorraine Fath, William Huffman and Pam Bane. Ivan Jones received the Ambassador Award for his dedication and 40 years of service. (see photo left of (L to R) Lorraine Fath, Pam Bane, Cynthia Lasco, Superintendent Wilson, Ivan Jones and Susan Jones)



Wilma Moore, Senior Archivist of African American History at the Indiana Historical Society (IHS) served as the guest speaker at the Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility's (IREF) Black History Month program. Ms. Moore recounted stories of Black History and African

American accomplishments in Indianapolis and Indiana, and spoke about her love of history and her work at the IHS. Ms. Moore addressed questions posed by IREF staff and residents during the Q&A session that followed. The Indiana Veterans Education and Transition Unit residents presented Ms. Moore with a home-made card, thanking her for participating in the event.

The Correctional Industrial Facility hosted the Karl Hinkle Ministry in Song program. Forty offenders attended the program which featured music provided by Mr. Hinkle, as well as a sermon given by Mr. Stephen Richards. The program was appreciated and well received by the offenders.

The Pendleton Correctional Facility donated \$532 to the Animal Protection League from Anderson, IN. The donation was made possible as the result of proceeds from an offender food sale. The purpose of the Animal Protection League is to provide a compassionate, humane community for animals and to make second chances possible through the human/animal connection. (see photo right)



The Putnamville Correctional Facility donated \$1500 to Putnam and Clay County non-profit organizations. The United Way, Crime Victim Services and YMCA were recipients of \$500 dollars each. The donations represent the first of Superintendent Stanley Knight's 2013 initiative to increase donations and expand the recipient base. The money donated was generated from Aramark food sales to staff and visitors. (see photo left)

Plainfield Correctional Facility Superintendent Brian Smith is pleased to announce the recent promotion of Jason Trinh to Correctional Sergeant. Congratulations Sergeant Trinh!

